

INFORMATION PAPER

CEIM-P
9 April 1997

SUBJECT: Information Architecture 2000

1. Purpose. To update USACE Commanders on the Architecture 2000 Initiative.

2. Facts.

a. The Vision: To produce architectural components that have the flexibility to accommodate differing missions and organizational structures; to provide the framework to develop, adopt, specify and acquire new systems or automation tools; and to facilitate meaningful and timely information flow throughout the organization and between ourselves, our customers and our partners. To enable all users to access meaningful information, in a timely manner, and communicate with each other easily, reliably, securely and cost-effectively in any medium -- voice, data, image or video, for example -- anytime, anywhere; and to enable and enhance the completion of all phases of Corps projects using the resulting systems and infrastructure.

b. The ultimate goal is to help you leverage your information technology investments while bringing the Corps ever closer to a seamless, integrated network where all information needed is available and accessible.

c. Phase I of the Architecture 2000 project produced a set of guiding principles for information architecture. You can view the principles by pointing your World Wide Web (WWW) browser to the Universal Resource Locator (URL):
<http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/im/ceimp/arch2000/principl.htm>.

d. Phase I also produced an architecture process model and a framework or way of thinking about the components of our information infrastructure. You can view these diagrams by pointing your browser to:
<http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/im/ceimp/arch2000/diagram1.htm#top>.

e. Finally, Phase I produced an infant prototype, of a new and dynamic method of creating and evolving our architecture. This prototype will be one of the focal points of the ongoing activities in Phase II of the Architecture 2000 development process.

f. More information about Architecture 2000, Phase I, is available at the Web site:
<http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/im/ceimp/arch2000>.

g. The Statement of Work for Phase II of Architecture 2000 is under development. The

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work on Phase II is expected to be completed in early 1998. At that time the products will include a target architecture in the traditional "architecture" format, and a conceptual process architecture to allow the architecture to "live and evolve" in response to Corps' needs and react to rapid changes in technology. The combination of "target" and "process" architectures will equip the Corps to meet the rapid changes in technologies, missions, and business processes which are expected to characterize the work environment of the 21st century. Architecture 2000 is envisioned as being the LINK that guides Corps personnel from VISION to REALITY. It will enable you, as a commander, to create highly productive, and interoperable, realities from the current "buzzwords" - collaborative work environment... virtual organizations....

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3. This information has been approved for publication by COL Donald J. Whitten, Director of Information Management.

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